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"Our Home, Our Country, and Our Brother Man."

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THE FARMER.

E. HOLMES, Editor.

DO WE KNOW ALL THAT WE OUGHT OF THE VEGETABLE PRODUCTS OF MAINE?

No sir. We know that the forests of the frontier afford excellent pine timber—we know that the bark of our hemlocks afford excellent tannin matter, and is much used. We know, that now and then a birch's-eye maple is used for furniture, and a birch burl for veneers, and hackmatack knees make very good ship timber. So far, very good. But is that all that is necessary to be known? Are there no other products of the vegetable kingdom useful to us, and do we not depend upon many other nations for articles which may be found, or substitutes for them found in our own country?

There cannot be the least doubt that many very valuable coloring materials can be found in our own forests and among the lesser vegetable tribes. But it takes time and expense to investigate them, and those who would make use of them are content to use those that former generations have discovered and handed down to us. If the several Agricultural Societies would offer premiums for the best essays and experiments and facts developed by researches of others, we have no doubt that much good and valuable matter might be elicited. And why should not this be done? It is certainly a legitimate object for them to attend to—coming within the scope of their designs, and would be productive of much good. Many a housewife in the country can give much information on such subjects, and if their detached facts could be collected together, and their hints and suggestions followed out—a mass of information would be obtained that would be valuable to individuals and to the community at large. We suggest this now, because it occurs to us at this moment; and although it may be too late for those Societies to do any thing in the business this year, yet perhaps some one will bear it in mind and propose something of the kind for the next. We have not learnt all Nature out, by a vast deal, and any incentive that shall prompt to the study of her with a view of bringing out facts of a practical bearing, should be encouraged.

But this is not all. We have many kinds of timber which ought to be experimented upon in order to ascertain their various properties; such as their durability—their strength—the facility of working—their beauty, &c. &c. Some are valuable for one thing, some for another. There are some of the smaller classes of trees, that are not much used for any purposes, and yet many of them might be to great advantage for particular things. A mechanic informed us the other day, that the wood of the "swamp pear" (*Pyrus Arbutifolia*) we believe, is exceedingly tough and makes the best chisel handles of any thing in the world. Another says, the wood of the common white thorn very much resembles boxwood, and would make excellent rules. Now these are small trees, if trees they can be called, and are seldom used or thought fit for any thing. Such facts as these are valuable, and it is an accumulation of them, that make up science of the best kind, because it is science that can be put to practical use.

SWEET APPLES.

The many uses to which apples may be put, espe-

cially sweet ones, renders them a valuable article of consumption on a farm. Very good molasses is oftentimes made from them by first manufacturing them into cider and then boiling it down to a syrup. As a feed for hogs and cattle they begin to be appreciated by those who have fairly tried the experiment. They are very palatable and will bring such animals as they are fed to, up to a certain point of fatness from which it will be very easy to raise them higher by addition of a small quantity of oat and pea or corn meal. As the potato crop is much diminished this year, in many parts of the State by drouth and rust, we would recommend the apple as a substitute. A good baked sweet apple is very grateful and nutritious, and may be used for most of the purposes to which potatoes are put, and those who have plenty of them would do a service to the community, if not to themselves, by thus economizing and thereby in fact increasing the supply of potatoes from the small crop of the present year.

BACKBITING.

The meanest of all biting animals is that species known by the name of *Backbiter*. Set it down for a fact whenever you see one you see a coward. One who dares not look you in the face and calmly tell you that he has aught against you, or that you have in his opinion done him wrong. An honest generous man will go to you and commune with you quietly and calmly if he either has or fancies that he has received injury from you. But one of your jealous and narrow minded persons, will never go to the right person to unburthen himself of any trouble of the kind. Every other person in christendom must hear the story with all its variations, but the very one most interested. Hence nine tenths of the mischief, the tattling and scandal which disturbs almost every neighborhood. This talking about instead of to the person in question. For our part we like a *facebiter* better than a *backbiter*. There is some chance to "fend off" if you are abused.

GATHERING CORN.

We observe that many still continue the practice of picking their corn from the stalks instead of cutting it up close to the ground. At the South, where the stalks grow eight or ten feet high, this is undoubtedly the best way, but in this country where the stalk is small it is not only the neatest but the most economical way to cut it close to the ground. It is true that you may turn the cattle in after the corn is picked and they will glean the dried leaves and loose husks, and that is all, but if it be cut up and husked and the butts carefully stowed away with straw where they will sweat and ferment and become a little mouldy, your cattle will be very fond of them in winter and eat nearly the whole up. Cattle are pretty good judges of what is good and what they like, and in this thing they give a lesson which the economical farmer will follow.

MANUFACTURING POTATOES.

Perhaps no vegetable, unless it be the apple, has a tendency to give so great a variety of sorts from the seed as the potato. Below, we give Gen. Robinson's account of a new variety which has been produced by sowing the seeds and carefully cultivating them until he has found a variety which rival the far-famed Rohans themselves. Making all due allowances for any partiality which a parent ought to feel for its offspring, or in other words, for love of the variety which our friend's care and skill has been the means of producing, there is no doubt but that that he has obtained a very valuable sort. They must go by the name of the Rob-

inson's, and who knows but our friend's name will go down to posterity in company with the Right Honorable his highness Prince Charles de Rohan, and the lovers of good and great potatoes, honor them with praises of no equivocal nature, long after the rest of this generation are buried in impenetrable oblivion.—But joking apart, this plan of introducing new varieties should be followed by those farmers who have leisure to do it. For in the first place there is a chance of obtaining many new and valuable sorts, but it even renovates the old sorts. We recollect that Mr Plummer of Wales sent us a year or two ago some of the Old Orange potato which he had so renovated. We have now growing a variety which our friend Paine Wingate obtained in this way, which are very excellent. We call them the Wingate Whites.

We should be glad if a specimen of the Robinson potato could be exhibited at our Cattle Show. Roll over one to us General. Will others who have tried similar experiments do likewise. We believe there is no premium for such "manufactured articles," but there ought to be.

THE ROHANS OUTDONE.

DOCT. HOLMES—Dear Sir:—As one of your correspondents considers the potato the most important of all edibles, you will allow me I presume to tell you a "little bit" of a potato story. In the year 1834 I planted the seeds of a potato ball, and have continued to plant from the product. Last year I carefully sorted and planted each variety by itself, when I found a large round kind, of a light orange color, to be a great bearer which induced me to try it with the famous Rohan, which I have done by planting on the 14th of May last, in the middle of a small field, on sward land without manure, one row of Rohans and one row of my orange colored, side by side, which have been treated every way alike, and which I have this day harvested, finding just two bushels of orange and one and seven eighths bushels of Rohans. I find too, on cooking some of each, that the orange is, to my taste, the best eating potato, although not first rate. I have another kind from the same ball, much resembling the famous "Butman" which I am willing to say, I think equal to any other potato for table use; but as usual in such cases, it will not produce more than half as much as the orange.

I mention these facts Doctor, just to show to every farmer (who will take the trouble to read) with what facility he may accommodate himself, with such variety of the potato, for his table or stock, as he may wish; also to our good neighbors of the Empire State, that they must try again before they beat Maine in potatoes, either for quantity or quality.

With much respect,

Your friend &c.,

JESSE ROBINSON.

WATERVILLE, Sept. 12, 1840.

THE WEATHER.—As we up Easters regulate the period of "frosts and snow," as far as reporting them properly is concerned at least, we will just say that his honor Jack Frost has not yet made his appearance though there is a quite a cold snap. The old gentleman may come on as soon as he pleases, for there is nothing he can injure, saving now and then a pumpkin vine.

PUMPKINS AND SQUASHES.

The good old fashioned New England pumpkin still continues its hold on the affections of the people, and from the abundant show of them, as they lay peeping out from among the "standing corn," gives evidence that *thanksgiving day* will be rich in the pumpkin pie, of puritan memory. But the greatest and best have their rivals, and the favorite old pumpkin has one also, that is fast treading on his heels and trying to elbow

him out of good society. It is Miss Marrow Squash a foreign lady, who, although she does not put on many airs, is nevertheless a sweet and a comely lass, and very welcome wherever she goes. Notwithstanding this rivalry, there appears to be an inclination toward each other, and some are for the union of them at once. It is said by knowing ones that there will be an improvement in the breed—that they will come to maturity earlier, be sweeter, and keep longer. If that is the case, an intermarriage may be beneficial.

Original.

BOTS IN HORSES.

MR. HOLMES:—In No. 19 of the current vol. of the Farmer, I observed a communication from Elijah Wood, Jr on the subject of Bots in Horses, wherein he says he extracted Bots from the stomach of a neighbor's horse that died with them. That he plunged them into various decoctions which he names, and last of all, he asserts they lived some time in water in a boiling state. He thinks therefore that any medicine that will kill bots will kill a horse. Thus far it would seem there is no remedy—that the horse that has bots must die. Not so fast. Well is it said, and experience proves that what is one man's meat is another's poison. So with bots. Had he put them into a strong decoction of tobacco juice it might have killed them. At all events, it has been found that where a horse shows signs of having bots, by biting his sides, laying down, &c. pour from a common junk bottle into his stomach say a pint or a pint and half of warm sweetened milk, which will cause the bots to let go their hold on the stomach of the horse in search of the sweetened milk which they love—in 20 or 30 minutes after the milk is given pour down as much tobacco juice, made so by boiling tobacco, not too strong, cooled to the degree of warm milk just taken from the cow. The milk being loosening and sweet causes them to let go their hold on the stomach—the tobacco poisons them, or so benumbs them, or so operates on the stomach as to cause them to cease forever their once lovely hold on that organ, and when the horse discharges his manure they will be found among it, and having discharged the vile rascals, will soon recover. Thus tobacco, a nasty weed, may be made useful, as it may even serve to destroy lice, bed bugs and other vermin. Certain it is, that what will nourish one animal when eaten, will poison and be the means of killing another. A certain kind of hemlock is good food for goats but poisonous to men. I hope we shall not despair if our horses do show signs of Bots, for we can make them let go their hold and thus fix them if we begin in season.

S. W.

Original.

WHEAT.

MR. HOLMES:—We have got in our wheat and are able to judge as to the soundness of the crop. I last year made known my intended experiment, which partially succeeded; and I was satisfied that it could be made to succeed. We sowed agreeably to my intentions, in some good degree. We put on to the earliest land the Bald wheat, and sowed it about the 24th or 25th of May. Our main crop was sowed with the Black Sea wheat of the importation of Payson Williams. The result was that the Bald wheat was rusty and shrunk, evidently sowed too late. The Black Sea wheat was well filled. A part was on a clover sod, and sowed as late as any, and it was the largest wheat we have raised this year.

I am clear that on a clover sod, when there is little or no top-dressing to support the wheat when it first comes up, it always ought to be sowed so late that the growth may be advanced by the rotting of the sod, and as Black Sea wheat seldom or never blasts, it will be the best to sow on clover sod this variety, even should we be no more troubled with the grain worm.

We obtained from New Hampshire a half bushel of another importation, and sowed it late on a clover sod. It was good, and turned out to be the red bearded wheat. The crop is not so large from Mr Williams' Black Sea wheat as when it was first introduced, which Rev. Mr Colman says was fifty-five bushels to the acre, weighing sixty five pounds to the bushel; and believing that it was fast acclimating, the Ken. Co. Ag. Society have taken measures for the importation of three barrels from near the Black Sea, which it is hoped will arrive in time for next year's sowing. Either of the varieties of the Black Sea may safely be sowed so late as wholly to avoid the grain worm and obtain a good crop.

Rev. Mr Colman thinks that he has discovered that finely powdered lime sowed on to the wheat when it is moist, will prevent the grain from being injured by the grain worm. It is a fact that the fly that produces the grain worm was out on the 26th of June of this year. It is a fact that they do all their mischief in about three weeks.

At the Semi-Annual meeting of the Kennebec Co.

Ag. Society, holden on the 26th of August last, the facts, relative to the blasting of black sea wheat, were called for, and there was no instance of its blasting this year within the knowledge of any member of the Society present, while other varieties were much blasted. My advice is that we do not get out of other good varieties, but that we make the Black Sea variety our main crop, and sow it late until we are no longer afraid of that scourge, the grain worm. I also believe that the farmer may safely sow his ten, twenty, thirty or forty acres, as he did before the ravages of the grain worm.

It is an admitted fact that the Bald wheat when raised to perfection makes the whitest flour and the most to the bushel; but it is not admitted that it makes the best bread; nor can I raise as many bushels to the acre. My largest crops have been of the bearded wheat.

ELIJAH WOOD.

Winthrop, Sept. 3d, 1840.

Original.

SEEDS IN THE EARTH.

MR. HOLMES:—Much has been said about seeds laying in the earth for a number of years and then vegetating, and much is yet unknown how long seeds will live in the earth and then vegetate.

In the spring of 1798 I moved on my farm, in the woods, with no cleared land on the lot—about 5 acres had been planted with corn the year before. I continued cutting down and clearing a few acres yearly for seventeen years. In all the new burnt land cherry trees, sumach, poplars, willows, briars, raspberries and weeds of many kinds appeared—the soft trees I cut down, for clearing my farm covered about seven acres. I commenced June 12th, 1815, and planted it to corn in 1816. In 1817 I sowed it to grain and grass seed, and continued to mow it for about twelve years and then pastured it. For a number of the first years but a few young pines appeared, but since I have pastured it many pines appear and grow every year and several years before I left off mowing the ground. I am of the opinion that the seed had been in the earth for a great number of years.

I recollect a small field that became very full of foul seed, such as barn grass, smart weed, pig weed, &c. I sowed to grain and grass seed in hopes of killing the foul seed, and continued to mow it for fourteen years, and no appearance of the foul weeds appeared—then I ploughed it for tilling, but to my disappointment the same foul weeds appeared as plenty as before.

North Turner, Sept. 1, 1840.

J. W.

Original.

REMINISCENCES OF DECEMBER, 1825.

MR. HOLMES:—My records of Dec. 31, 1825, made at the time, reads thus:—Very rainy the greatest part of the day and last night. N. E. wind. I made three barn windows, &c. to the barn. The small brooks and swamps are very full of water. The year past has been very favorable for business. Last winter season was good sledding and sleighing, but a few rough days or cold storms—the spring forward and pleasant—the summer season very dry and the fires did much damage in the woods, fields and many buildings and much fence were burnt by the dryness of the weather. I think it not so dry as 1816, though some are of the opinion it has been drier because the brooks and many wells of water are lower and dried up. Perhaps they do not consider that as our country becomes older and more cleared that it becomes drier and the springs lower. In 1816 many swamps and woods on my place were burnt over and the trees burnt out by the roots. I recollect that in 1816 many large places in the mowing and pasturing fields appeared to be dried up and dead more than they were this year.

The bugs did much damage to pumpkins and garden sauce this summer—early cultivated fields did tolerably well. English turnips, pumpkins and garden sauce was very scarce in this vicinity. Apples in general were small, light and wormy; but little or no second crop hay cut this year; fall feed for cattle scarce. In the first part of the fall stock was low, but continued to rise—middling sized oxen were worth \$60 per pair; cows \$13 each; yearlings \$5; sheep \$3.50 per pair; wheat \$1 to 1.17 per bushel; rye 58 to 75 cts.; corn 50 to 67 cts.; oats 30 to 34 cts.; potatoes and good apples 25 cts.; peas and beans from 67 cts. to \$1 per bushel; pork 6 to 7 cts. per lb; cheese 8 cts.; butter 12 1-2 to cts.; tallow 10 to 12 1-2. So ends the year, and the twenty-fifth book of records kept at North Turner by

JOSHUA WHITMAN.

Original.

HOW TO RESTORE FROST-BITTEN PLANTS.—I am told that frost-bitten plants may be restored to life by sprinkling them plentifully with brine, made of common salt, while in a frozen state; (care should be had that the brine be not too strong, for this of itself will kill them, if it is.) Water containing a solution of sal-ammoniac is said to be still better for the same purpose, that is, for counteracting the effects of the frost.

B. F. W.

West Sidney, Sept. 1840.

Preservation of Cabbages. The following methods of preserving cabbages for winter use, are the result of experience:

The cabbages should be gathered before injury is done them by the severe fall frosts; the heavy outside leaves should remain on the stalk. Fix a string or cord round the stump near the roots, suspend them from the sleepers with the head downward in a cool cellar, and they are ready and fit for use at all times. Cabbages kept in this manner retain all their peculiar flavor and sweetness; the whole virtue of the stump and leaves is concentrated in the part which is used, are handy of access, occupy but little room which would be occupied by other purposes, and seldom if ever rot; the outside leaves wilt and contract, and in time become quite dry, which forms a sort of coating that serves to exclude the air from the inside of the head.

Another method practised by some, and highly recommended, is to cut the head from the stump, pack close in a sack, taking care to fill up the vacancies with dry chaff, thereby excluding the air, and keep in a dry cellar.—*Albany Cultivator.*

MR. ETHRIDGE of Montrose, Pew, England who keeps a considerable quantity of bees, buried several of his hives in the ground, during the fall of last year. They were placed at sufficient depth to be out of the reach of the frost, and in such a manner that the air could by no means penetrate, being first covered with straw, to about the depth of ten inches, before being covered with mould. They were taken up in April, and the bees were found to be in good health. They had made use of no honey, as there appeared to be as much honey in the spring as when the hives were buried in the autumn.—*London Hort. Reg.*

If bees may be kept in this country in the above manner and in good health, would it not be good economy to inter them? Have any of the readers of the Farmer known instances of the kind when bees have been buried in this country? R.

Transplanting.—There is not a shrub, vine, plant or tree to be found in our fields and forests, that is not susceptible of a high degree of improvement, if taken up late in the fall, or early in the spring, properly trimmed and transplanted into good rich soil near our dwellings. Their change for the better soon becomes apparent. Take for instance, young chestnut trees from the mountain, lop off as much of their tops as you leave of their roots; set them out as you would your apple trees, not deeper in the soil than they have stood. They have a rapid growth, and if well preserved will spread and bear prolifically, producing a nut three times the size of those generally brought to market, and of better flavor. The hickory tree will do the same. All will bear grafting as well as a pear tree. Experiments in this line cost but little.

CLEANINGS

IN THE ARTS AND PRACTICAL SCIENCES.

From Ure's Dictionary.

LEATHER.—(Concluded.)

Leather of Hungary.—This is manufactured by impregnating strong hides with alum, common salt, and saet; by a rapid process which is usually completed in the space of two months. The workshop is divided into two parts; 1. a shed on the side of a stream, furnished with wooden horses, fleshing knives, and other small tools. In one corner is a furnace with a boiler for dissolving the alum, a vat for immersing the hides in the solution, and several subsidiary tubs. 1. A chamber, 6 feet high by 15 feet square, capable of being made very tight, for preserving the heat. In one corner is a copper boiler, of sufficient size to contain 170 pounds of tallow. In the middle of the stove is a square stone slab, upon which an iron gate is placed about a yard square. This is covered with charcoal. At each side of the stove are large tables, which occupy its whole length, and on which the leather is spread to receive the grease. The upper part below the ceiling is filled with poles for hanging the leather upon to be heated. The door is made to shut perfectly close.

The first operations are analogous to those of tanning and tawing; the skins being washed, cut in halves, shaved, and steeped for 24 hours in the river. They are then cleaned with 5 or 6 pounds of alum, and 3 1-2 pounds of salt, for a piece of hide which weighs from 70 to 80 pounds. The common salt softens the effect of the alum, attracts the moisture of the air, and preserves the suppleness of the skin. When the alum and salt are dissolved, hot water is poured upon the hides placed in a vat, and they are tramped upon by a workman walking repeatedly from one end of the vat to the other. They are then transferred into a similar vat containing some hot water, and similarly tramped upon. They are next steeped for eight days in alum

water. The same round of operations is repeated a second time.

The skins are now dried either in the air, or a stove room; but before being quite dry, they are doubled together, well stretched to take out the wrinkles, and piled up. When dry, they are again tramped to open the pores as well as to render the skin pliant, after which they are whitened by exposure to the sun.

Tallow of inferior quality is employed for greasing the leather. With this view the hides are hung upon the poles in the close stove room, then laid upon the table, and besmeared with the tallow melted till it begins to crackle. This piece is laid on another table, is there covered with a second similarly greased, and so forth. Three pounds of fat are commonly employed for one piece of leather.

When the thirty strips, or fifteen hides passed through the grease in one operation are completed, two workmen take the first piece in their hands, and stretch it over the burning charcoal on the grate for a minute, with the flesh side to the fire. The rest are passed over the flame in like manner. After flaming, the pieces are successively laid on an inclined table exposed to the fire, where they are covered with a cloth. They are finally hung upon poles in the air to dry; and if the weather be warm, they are suspended only during the night, so as to favour the hardening of the grease. Instead of the alum bath, M. Curaudau has employed with advantage a steep of dilute sulphuric acid.

Morocco leather.—The true morocco leather is goat skin tanned and then dyed on the side of the grain. Sheep skins are treated in the same way. The skins are steeped first in a fermenting mixture of bran water for a few days, they are then worked upon the horse, steeped in fresh water for 12 hours, and rinsed in the same. They are next drained, steeped in weak lime pits for a proper time, till the hairs can be readily detached. They are now subjected to the action of a blunt knife upon the horse-beam, in order to strip off their hair, after which they are cleansed in running water. Any excrescences must be carefully removed with the fleshing knife, and their edges neatly pared. The next process is rubbing them strongly with a piece of hard state, set in a wooden frame, in order to expel by the pressure any lime which may still adhere, and to soften the grain. They are now worked upon the horse-beam with the blunt knife, and subjected to a species of flogging, by being agitated by pegs in a revolving cask along with water. Many manufacturers prefer a weak alkaline lye, or putrid urine to the lime bath.

The skins are immersed for a night and a day, in a bran bath, in a certain state of fermentation, then worked on the horse, and salted, to preserve them till they are to be dyed.

Preparatory to being dyed, each skin is sewed together edgewise, with the grain on the outside, and it is then mordanted either with a solution of tin, or with alum water. The colour is given by cochineal, of which from 10 to 12 ounces are required for a dozen of skins. The cochineal being boiled in water along with a little tartar or alum for a few minutes, forms a red liquor, which is filtered through a linen cloth, and put into a clean cask. The skins are immersed in this bath, and agitated in it for about half an hour; they are taken out and beaten, and then subjected to a second immersion in the cochineal bath. After being thus dyed, they are rinsed and tanned with Sicilian sumach, at the rate of two pounds for a skin of moderate size. This process is performed in a large tub made of white wood, in the liquor of which the skins are floated like so many bladders, and moved about by manual labour during four hours. They are then taken out, drained, and again subjected to the tanning liquor; the whole process requiring a space of twenty-four hours. The skins are now unstitched, rinsed, filled with beetles, drained, rubbed hard with a copper blade, and lastly hung up to dry.

Some manufacturers brighten the color by applying to the surface of the skins, in a damp state, a solution of carmine in ammonia with a sponge; others apply a decoction of saffron to enliven the scarlet tint. At Paris the morocco leather is tanned by agitation with a decoction of sumach in large casks made to revolve upon a horizontal axis, like a barrel churn. White galls are sometimes substituted for sumach; a pound being used for a skin. The skins must be finally cleaned with the utmost care.

The black dye is given by applying with the brush a solution of red acetate of iron to the grain side. Blue is communicated by the common cold indigo vat; violets, with a light blue followed by cochineal red; green, by Saxon blue followed by a yellow dye, usually made with the chopped roots of the barberry. This plant serves also for yellows. To dye olive, the skins are first passed through a weak solution of green vitriol, and then through the decoction of barberry root,

containing a little Saxon blue. Puce color is communicated by logwood with a little alum; which may be modified by the addition of a little Brazil wood. In all these cases, whenever the skins are dyed, they should be rinsed, wrung or rather drained, stretched upon a table, then besmeared on the grain side with a film of linseed oil applied by means of a sponge, in order to promote their glossiness when carried, and to prevent their becoming horny by too rapid drying.

The last process in preparing morocco leather is the currying, which brings out the lustre, and restores the original suppleness. This operation is practised in different manners, according to the purpose the skins are to serve. For pocket-books, portfolios, and case-making in general, they must be thinned as much as possible upon the flesh side, moistened slightly, then stretched upon the table, to smooth them; dried again, moistened, and lastly passed two or three times through the cylinder press in different directions, to produce the crossing of the grain. The skins intended for the shoemaker, the saddler, the bookbinder, &c., require more pliancy, and must be differently curried. After being thinned, they are glazed with a polisher while still moist, and a grain is formed upon the flesh side with the roughened lead plate or grainer of the curriers, called in French *pommelle*; they are glazed anew to remove the roughness produced by the pommel, and finally gained on the flesh side with a surface of cork applied under a pommel of white wood.

Russia leather.—The Russians have long been possessed of a method of making a peculiar leather, called by them *juten*, dyed red with the aromatic saunders wood. This article has been much sought after, on account of not being subject to mould in damp situations, being proof against insects, and even repelling them from the vicinity of its odour. The skins are freed from the hair or fleece, by steeping in an ash-lye too weak to act upon the animal fibres. They are then rinsed, filled for a longer or shorter time according to their nature, and fermented in a proper steep, after having been washed in hot water. They are taken out at the end of a week, but they may be steeped a second time if deemed necessary, to open their pores. They are now cleaned by working them at the horse on both the flesh and grain sides.

A paste is next composed, for 200 skins, of 38 pounds of rye flour, which is set to ferment with leaven. This dough is worked up with a sufficient quantity of water to form a bath for the skins, in which they are soaked for 48 hours; they are then transferred into small tubs, where they remain during fifteen days, after which they are washed at the river. These operations serve to prepare the skins for absorbing the astringent juices with uniformity. A decoction of willow bark (*salix cinerea*, and *salix caprea*) being made, the skins are immersed in the boiler whenever the temperature of the liquor is sufficiently lowered not to injure the animal fibres, and handled and pressed for half an hour. This manipulation is repeated twice daily during the period of a week. The tanning infusion is then renewed, and applied to the same skins for another week; after which being exposed to the air to dry, they are ready for being dyed, and then carried with the empyreumatic oil of the bark of the birch tree. To this substance the Russia leather owes its peculiarities. Many modes have been prescribed for preparing it; but the following is the one practised in Russia.

The whitish membranous epidermis of the birch, stripped of all woody parts, is introduced into an iron boiler, which, when stuffed full, is covered tight with a vaulted iron lid, having a pipe rising from its centre. A second boiler into which this pipe passes without reaching its bottom, is set over the first, and is luted to it at the edges, after the two are bolted together. They are then inverted, so that the upper one contains the birch bark. The under half of this apparatus is sunk in the earth, the surface of the upper boiler is coated over with a clay lute, then surrounded with a fire of wood, and exposed to a red heat, till the distillation be completed. This operation, though rude in appearance, and wasteful of wood, answers its purpose perfectly well. The iron cylinder apparatus used in Britain for distilling wood vinegar, would however, be much more convenient and productive. When the above boilers are unluted, there is found in the upper one a very light powder of charcoal, and in the under one which served as a receiver, there is an oily, brown, empyreumatic fluid, of a very strong smell, which is mixed with the tar, and which floats over a small quantity of crude vinegar. The former matter is the oil employed to impregnate the skins, by working it into the flesh side with the curriers' tools. It is difficult to make this oil penetrate with uniformity; and the Russians do not always succeed in this process, for they turn out many skins in a spotted state. This oil is at present obtained in France by distilling the birch bark in copper stills, and condensing the products

by means of a pipe plunged in cold water. About 60 per cent. of the weight of the bark is extracted.

The skins imbibe this oil most equally before they are fully dry. Care must be taken not to apply too much of it, for fear of its passing through and staining the grain side of the leather. Chevreul has investigated the chemical nature of this odoriferous substance, and finding it to be a peculiar compound, has called it *betuline*.

DISEASES OF HORSES—CURES.

Mr Clayton.—I am a mechanic, but have owned a great many horses, and consequently have had some sick ones. I will therefore drop a few hints concerning my practice in curing the various diseases to which this fine animal is subject.

COLT DISTEMPER.—This disease is caused frequently by neglecting to stable the animal, exposure to cold rain, &c. The consequence is, a violent cold, with high fevers, and a collection between the jaws or enlarged glands.

TREATMENT.—Take blood freely when the disease is fairly developed, feed high on mash or scalded oats mixed with meal; repeat the bleeding twice a week, and if the swelling increases take ten to fifteen ears of corn and boil it six or eight hours, then put it into a small blanket doubled, and swing it under the head four or five hours at a time—repeat it three or four times; then lance it and the cold is cured. Many persons force the colt to run and jump while running at the nose, which I consider a bad practice. Suppose a man extremely ill was made to get out of bed, and run or jump, the result would be death inevitable; just so with a horse when exhausted and enfeebled by sickness.

BOTS OR GRUBS.—Mix half a pint of molasses with a quart of sage tea and drench him—if he is not relieved kill a fowl, and take its warm entrails and put them down his throat with your hand or a corn-cob. If these fail, take six or eight buttons of nux vomica, mash them in a mortar and boil it half an hour, then sweeten and drench him, and I would consider him cured for once. Then dry the nux vomica and put in papers of about three buttons each, and give him twice a week in a pint of meal with a little salt for three weeks both spring and fall, and you will not lose a horse with the bots.

CHOLIC.—This disease is frequently caused by irregular feeding and exercise. Take half a pint of camphor, one ounce of peppermint and an ounce of laudanum; mix all together and drench him. If he is not relieved repeat it in fifteen or twenty minutes, and continue to repeat it as it may be difficult to check. I have given five ounces of laudanum before the horse was relieved. If neither of the above can be had, procure a pint of hen dung and mix it with one quart of warm water, and drench him. I saved a very fine horse in this way.

FOUNDER.—This disease is also frequently caused by irregular feeding. The animal should be bled freely, salted and kept from water. Make a very strong tea of sassafras roots, and let it drink a quantity three or four times a day. Dissolve three or four ounces of assafoetida in a quart of water and drench him—if he will not swallow, put some into his nostrils, and he will be obliged to swallow, though it will not hurt him. This I consider a certain cure.

THUMPS.—Thumps are caused by over-heating and fast riding or driving. Take one pint of brandy or good whiskey, beat up a quarter of a pound of black pepper, mix it and drench him. Or take a dozen eggs, hold up his head and break them and put them down his throat, shell and all, and he will recover immediately.

GLANDERS.—The glanders are known by a running from one nostril at a time. Get a good strong yoke of oxen, lead him to the woods remote from any settlement, haul up some large logs, charge your rifle well, and shoot him—then pile the logs on him and burn him up to prevent others catching the disease.

PACTOLUS.

THE SCOURS.—Take a common porter bottle, which will hold about one and a half pints; fill it with the strongest coffee, just as you would use at your own breakfast, but without either cream or sugar. Instead of those ingredients, put in one teaspoonful of common salt. Place the foal in a corner of the stable, so that it can get no farther backwards, and after shaking well empty the liquid, milk warm, at stated intervals, down its throat. Its distaste to the coffee, and the unpleasantness of its situation under the operation, will forbid its receiving more than a pint, even with all your care to the contrary. But that pint will be sufficient. I have seen it tried a dozen times this season, and have not yet known it to fail. If you think it worthy a place in the Cultivator, no objection shall be raised by

JAMES HOIMES.

Southern Cultivator.



AGRICULTURAL.

MEADOW LANDS.

To the Editor of the Cultivator:—My father has a piece of interval, bounded on one side by the river, and on the other by a high gravel bank, which, in my humble opinion, is susceptible of much improvement.

One acre of it is very uneven—resembling much in appearance a cornfield after harvest. I do not know, nor can I ascertain the certain cause of these inequalities of surface: many believe them to be the remains of Indian agriculture: but I am more inclined to think they were formed by currents of water flowing over many years ago, perhaps before grass roots had filled the soil, and enabled it to withstand their power. Be that as it may, the hummocks, (hillocks as we call them) are there, and I wish to know very much, sir, if it is expedient to destroy them. I find nothing in "the essence of the Boston Cultivator" in relation to their treatment particularly, but I should think from what is there said, they might be "hewn down and cast into the fire"—the ashes spread upon the land—some grass-seed afterwards sown, and the mowing be a great deal smoother, to say nothing of the possibility of their being double the quantity of hay, and that of better quality. If this can be done, I wish you would let the "four thousands" readers, or subscribers of the Cultivator know it, and if not practicable, warn them against trying an unprofitable experiment.

Two acres more of the piece are meadow, situated nearest the high bank, above which is the plain, and plain enough it is to see: in proof of its fertility, June-grass, and sorrel faintly grow, and mullens sometimes dare to blow. This meadow is even, the hassocks being nearly all of a height; and from seeing oxen sometimes mire in it, I should think the soil was from five to ten feet in depth, and that of the richest quality. From my experience and observation, I know that English grasses can never flourish in such a soil, on account of their being such an accumulation of vegetable matter, which, having the power to retain water a great length of time is always kept too cold.—To make it suitable for their introduction, you recommend covering several inches deep with gravel, (which will make it less retentive, and more easily warmed,) ploughing, manuring, and rolling. With regard to this plan, what I am most suspicious of, is, that the hassocks won't submit to be turned so freely and handsomely as we should wish, but perhaps they can be persuaded to sit on "edge," and I learn that there are those who think this is the most desirable position.

I also have some fears that the annual inundations, which cover this, two or three weeks, will injure it seriously. Those fertilizing floods, which carry the rich rile of the river on to its borders, may not prove so congenial to a meadow just reclaimed, and covered with young and tender roots.

I shall wait for your opinion of my remarks without using the spade or hoe.

Having some more paper and time, I will add a few words, suggested by some articles in your last papers. It seems you are engaged in battle with a gentleman who "avows himself the prime mover and instigator of the proposed premium of seventy five dollars for the best plough to set a sod up edgewise; well, sir, you propose routing him horse, foot, and dragoon, with laughing artillery, and I guess you can do it; there is little danger of your being out-generalled, and if you get out of ammunition, just send to the "practical farmers" of Concord. They think if as large a premium had been offered for the ugliest old shrew in the state, they should have been equally satisfied, and have thought their interests as much promoted. In the two premiums that are offered, a child may detect a most palpable inconsistency. Every man of common sense knows that the furrows should be turned entirely over. The committee of the State society knew it, and thought it of such importance that they offered a premium of one hundred dollars for the plough that would do it the best, yet their very next premium is for the plough that will not do it at all. I believe there will be much competition for that reward; almost every farmer has in his possessions some old plough "that has long stood the racket," (for as lives of little value are scarcely ever broken,) and

lured by the tempting offer, he will surely present it for the consideration of the committee, who will think the fault by which he has condemned it, as its only virtue. In concluding this subject, allow me to say, that I hope you will cannonade unceasingly from your battery of experience and sound judgment, the "prime instigator," until he shall throw down his chimerical ideas, with respect to ploughing, as flat as we would the sods. I never knew 'till I read in your paper lately, that the cause of moisture in hills was attributed to capillary attractions.—It is the same power then, which causes sap to ascend in trees and vegetables: truly, one who contemplates such actions and their effect for a moment with attention, must exclaim, "Nature indeed works wonders unseen." But my paper is now about gone, and I fear I have trespassed upon your patience; if so, I regret it, and sign myself

Respectfully yours,
Concord, Aug. 3d, 1840.

DAWES.

The first piece of low land referred to by our Concord correspondent has probably been planted in early times, and these hillocks or hummocks were occasioned by drawing up earth to the corn. It was anciently very common to lay down in Indian hills, under an impression that a larger surface was exposed to the sun, &c., and that more grass would be produced on an acre.

Thirty six years ago we saw an old gentleman clearing a piece of land that lay close to a mill pond. It was full of Indian hills, in as regular range as any of modern times; and he assured us he could remember seeing corn grow there though since that time a full growth of wood had taken the place of the corn-stalks, and he was clearing it off. A white pine, six feet high, will become a log, large enough to be saved into boards in thirty years. When Concord was first settled, this land was undoubtedly tilled. The Pioneers always cultivate first the lands nearest the rivers.

If this land will bear up cattle, and is not stony, plough it by all means and lay it smooth,—"don't take that are old on to plough with, what lays, um edgin." We now plough all such lands, but never plant them. Seed them down at once to grass, and you get your reward the very next season. There is no mistake; in most cases, if you manage rightly, you will obtain hay enough to pay you at the first cutting.

It is not advisable to "pare and burn" soils that can be readily turned with the plough. There are meadows abounding in moss and in other vegetable matter, which may be brought into English more cheaply by the process of paring and burning than by any other: but the plough is the grand instrument with which we bring hard lands to a proper condition, and the world is more cheaply revolutionized thus than in any other manner.

As the "meadow nearest to the high bank," if "mullens" grow on it, English grass may—but you cannot plough well ground that abounds in hassocks. We have known one a match for six oxen—they may be cut with a sharp bog hoe, but, if they are abundant, the cheapest mode is to cover them up with soil, and this may be done more easily before cutting the grass than afterwards.

For a hint on making good mowing of such lands, correspondent is referred to our last paper, which was not issued when he made this inquiry. If he fears it may be flooded before it has become well swarded, he may sow rye with his hayseed, then mow the rye early next summer for fodder and he may have an after crop of grass. We cannot keep in English grass land that is long flowed in winter; but an occasional flood in spring will do no injury where the land is well swarded.—*Boston Cultivator.*

PLOUGHING.

Farmers have been considerably divided in opinion on two points connected with ploughs, or rather with ploughing: one of these regarding the manner in which the furrow slice should be turned over; and the other, the depth to which land should be ploughed. Some have contended that the furrow slice should never be laid flat, but always in such an inclined position, that the edge of one slice should just rest on the next one, leaving under the edge so raised, a vacancy nearly as deep as the thickness of the furrow slice. This, it is contended, is advantageous, by hastening decomposition, and by allowing water to pass freely off without injury to young plants. Other farmers maintain as strenuously that the furrow slice should in all cases be laid perfectly flat, or reversed in such a manner that a field after ploughing should be as level as before, the plough simply reversing the surface of the slice. In this, as in a majority of controverted points, our experience and observation leads us to conclude that both sides are partly right, and both partly wrong. We have found that, if on lands strong and with a tenacious or im-

pervious subsoil, which retained for some time what water fell upon it, the furrow slice was slightly lapped, so as to leave a space below, young plants suffered less from a wet season, or an undue accumulation of water, than they would if the furrow slice was fully inverted, and the surface made smooth and even. On the contrary, we have been led to believe that on a light soil, or one inclining to be dry or porous, it was better to invert the surface completely, and by rolling, render the surface smooth, and its particles are compact as possible. A surface so treated, will retain its moisture longer than if left in a state more loose and friable, and the conducting power will be increased by the particles being brought more closely in contact. Let the farmer, then, whose subsoil is impermeable to water, lay his furrows as dipping as he pleases; the more space below, the better for him; but on a light porous soil, lay the surface flat, and make it as dense as it well can be. The benefit, which compressing sandy soils confers, is well understood in Norfolk, in England, where the treading of the sheep in feeding the turnips in the field, is considered not the least beneficial part of the culture required for the production of wheat.

Nearly the same remarks may be applied to the other controverted point, viz: that which relates to the depth of ploughing. The propriety or impropriety of deep ploughing must be determined by the soil itself; by its condition, in reference to a supply of vegetable matter in the soil, and the depth to which it has been formerly ploughed. Where the stratum of fertile soil is thin, and the subsoil, no matter from what cause, incapable of promoting vegetation, it is bad policy to bring this infertile subsoil to the surface, as a stratum in which seeds are to germinate. And where the soil is permeable to the depth of twelve or eighteen inches, or as low as the plough can penetrate, and is filled with fertilizing materials, deposited by the processes of nature, or by manure applied to the surface in cultivation, then the plough may run deep without fear of injury to the present crop, and the certainty of benefit to the future ones. We think the true method of rendering any soil deep and fertile, is to plough no deeper, and bring up no more of the infertile earth at a time to the surface, than can be thoroughly corrected by manures, to be incorporated with it, and thus made friable and productive. At each successive ploughing, if this course is followed, the soil will be gradually deepened and rendered productive to any desired depth. By pursuing this course of manuring and ploughing, Judge Powell rendered his soils fertile to the depth of fourteen inches, and where the roots of plants have this depth of good earth to range in and seek their food, the farmer can hardly fail of securing first rate crops. Every part of a soil so prepared, is fit for the germination of seeds to the lowest depth to which the plough can reach; and the more thorough the ploughing is given, the greater will be the surface exposed to the benefits of aeration, or the ameliorating influences of the atmosphere. One of the greatest differences between the old and the new husbandry, depends on this question of ploughing. In the old mode, the plough was used year after year to the same depth, and the manure applied with reference to the crop solely, while the improvement of the soil was wholly left out of sight. As a natural consequence, "there was no depth of soil," and when manure failed, the fertility of the land was gone, with scarcely a possibility of renovation under such a process. In the new husbandry, the permanent improvement of the soil, by gradual manuring and deepening, is kept steadily in view; and hence the accumulation and use of manures has received an additional importance. The garden is usually far the most fertile part of the farm, and this is brought about by the gradual incorporation of manures with the subsoil raised at each successive ploughing, until the requisite depth and fertility is gained. On lands long ploughed to a uniform depth, as they were under the old system, the pressure of the plough on the same surface, gradually formed an impenetrable strata, thus forming a fatal obstruction to the roots of plants, where it did not naturally exist. In England, on soils inclining to clay, and which have been under the plough occasionally, or almost perpetually for centuries, this impermeable pan is common, and one of the most decided advantages found to result from the subsoil plough, is the breaking up and demolition of this artificial construction to the spread and depth of the roots of plants. On the old cultivated fields of New England, the same difficulty exists more or less, and can be removed, and the soil rendered fertile by the same means so successful abroad.

The too frequent ploughing of land is not to be recommended in any case, and unless absolutely required to destroy foul weeds, it should receive no further moving than is requisite to fit it for a crop. The great

mistake of Tull, was, that ploughing or pulverization would supersede the use of manuring. But experience shows, what indeed philosophy inculcates, that beyond a certain point, ploughing is injurious; and that, though essential benefits are derived to the soil from the action of atmospheric agents, manuring in some form, is indispensable to successful farming. It may be said that an application of manure should take place every time land is either ploughed or cropped. On land that has been brought to a high state of fertility, the decomposition of the rich sward will usually prove a sufficient dressing for a single crop; but for a repetition or rotation of crops, manures cannot be withheld without a certain deterioration of the soil, and a probable lessening of the crop. Ploughing and manuring must go together, and without this combination, each will be found defective and incapable of producing such results as are certain to ensue when both separate processes are skilfully united. We are therefore disposed to consider every decided improvement in the plough, as a sure indication of progress in agriculture; a proof that another step in the correction and dissipation of ancient error has been gained; and the way opened and the means provided for still further and more important advances.—*Albany Cultivator*

HONEY BEE.—WEEKS'S PATENT HIVE.

MR. EDITOR:—While on an excursion in Connecticut, I stopped a day or two with a friend who was engaged in raising bees and obtaining honey by means of Weeks's Patent Hives, which proves to be a very profitable business. These hives have two stories, each containing 30 lbs. The 30 lbs. in the lower story are first made, and when completed, which may be known by inspection, or by weighing, the drawers are placed in the upper apartment and nicely adjusted, so that the bees can readily pass into them. When these are filled they can be withdrawn, and others placed in their stead—thus the bees can be preserved, and the excess of honey secured, without the cruel and wasteful process of destroying the bees, which was formerly adopted to obtain the labor of these patterns of industry.

I brought from my friend's bee-house, two drawers of this most beautiful honey, made by a swarm which had been in the hive but five weeks. These drawers contained more than 23 pounds of honey: add to this the 30 pounds already accumulated in the lower chamber, and it will be seen that this swarm of bees had in a little more than five weeks made 53 pounds of honey of excellent quality, which in the market readily commands 25 cents a pound.

From this brief statement, the profits of bees may be easily seen. The swarms sell readily at five dollars when first hived. Thus the product of the six hives will be in the autumn, 30 pounds of honey for winter use, 30 pounds for market, and five dollars for each swarm of bees. If the old hives make as much honey as the swarms, to this must be added 60 pounds made by each hive, half of which is profit, to wit: 180 pounds.

The profit of the six hives for one year (exclusive of the provision for winter) will be \$207 50: a sum well worth saving to a man who does not need to devote one week's time to the business.—*Worcester Aegis*.

FARMING.

The good old-fashioned industry in tilling the soil is again getting to be a favorite with the public. The depression in most kinds of business has compelled a great many to resort to farming as the surest means of procuring a subsistence, if not to increase their wealth. But there are yet multitudes who must enter upon this business or be compelled to go hungry. While farming is being vigorously pursued, mechanics and other classes will be encouraged to engage in their several trades, and by rigid economy, and the pursuit of a snug business, we may after a while be able to outlive our present difficulties, occasioned by a devalued currency.

A farmer has constantly open before him a field of enterprise. His fields need secure fences and careful cultivation, and to be constantly renewed by the application, in some form of manure. He should be constantly anticipating his work and so preparing and arranging it that no time be uselessly wasted. The rich return of a good orchard and of fruit-bearing shrubs, should early claim his attention and vigorous efforts. Farming, if it is not the most profitable business in the world, may, and should be so conducted as to secure the most of earth's comforts to those engaged in it. It may be carried on so as to present the most attractions,—the most to make one happy and contented at home of any business in the world.

In order to do this however, a farmer must exercise the active mind of an engineer. To raise good crops

will undoubtedly be his first object, and in proportion to his success in this department should be his efforts at raising the best stock, and fruits. If he be really a prudent man and an observer of human nature, he will also attend to the means of promoting his own and his family's happiness by having a comfortable dwelling, not expensive, but snug, neat and convenient; in a good position, and with architectural proportions. The out-buildings should be arranged with regard to good taste and convenience. Near the dwelling shrubbery and trees should be planted; and not remotely from the house, should be a garden well stocked with fruit-bearing shrubs. In order to arrive at a desirable result, the farmer when he begins should commence in the character of an engineer, and after repeated examinations should fix upon a plan of what he intends his farm, buildings &c. should be, and every post he sets, and every nail he drives, should have reference to this plan, and as time passes his plan will be constantly developing, and he and his children will be saved the mortification of seeing a haphazard jumbling of buildings, fences, trees, &c. A farmer's home since there the most of his time must be spent, and to which he should be strongly attached, ought to be the pleasantest spot to him of any on the whole globe. And why may it not be, since he can arrange as he pleases? There are a great many difficulties to struggle with in subduing nature and making a good farm, but these difficulties are not enhanced by attention to the things we have mentioned, but rather lightened by the new hopes and happy anticipations which such a plan gives birth to.—*Bangor Courier*.

THE VISITOR.

CONDUCTED BY CYRIL PEARL.

PLANTING MACHINE.

We have been gratified with the recent examination of a machine for planting various kinds of seeds, made by Jonathan Hobbs, Esq. of Falmouth, who is also the inventor and manufacturer of an efficient and economical Shingle Machine. The Seed Machine is fitted on a roller turned by the revolution of two wheels about 12 or 14 inches in diameter. It is fitted for sowing beets, carrots, onions, and turneps, and sows two rows of either at a time. It has generally been thought impracticable to fit a machine for sowing carrot seed from its tendency to clog, but this is so fitted as to overcome this difficulty, and appears to do the work well. It would be well to bring this instrument into extensive use. The cultivation of roots for cattle is of great utility, and ought to be more extensively practiced. The introduction of machines like this which need not cost more than four or five dollars will greatly aid their culture.

SACRED MUSIC.

The following notice was prepared sometime since but has been unavoidably delayed. It will however come in good time, as choirs and singing schools will be reviving these attentions to music as the Autumn evenings advance. The work noticed below has just been introduced into the Teacher's Seminary at Gorham, and was used and highly approved by the sacred music class which was recently conducted at Gorham by Mr. Wyman. The Teachers' class and convention at Boston, recently held, also used and approved it.—A national sacred music convention is now organized to meet annually at Boston in connexion with the Teachers' class.

We have received from Melvin Lord Esq., of Boston, a report of the Boston Academy and other documents on the subject of music, for which we return grateful acknowledgements.

We have also to acknowledge the receipt of the first number of the "BOSTON EOLIAD" a weekly paper of eight pages devoted to music at \$3.00 per annum. It is conducted by HENRY E. MOORE, and is to contain about one hundred pages of "new and beautiful music" beside a wide range of discussion and intelligence on the science and progress of music.

THE MODERN PSALMIST.

The increasing attention to Church Music, in this State, is an interesting feature in the different denominations of Christians, and from all appearances Mr. Mason seems likely to have the principal direction in this matter. Judging from extensive acquaintance in the State, we cannot doubt that his collections of music are much more extensively used in Maine than all others put together.

The Handel and Hayden society's collection while edited by him was extensively used. The Choir had a less extensive circulation, but the Boston Academy's collection—where is it not? And who does not love it? True, some will scold because a new book is out upon them, or a new edition, every few months, and there is some vexation occasioned by frequent altera-

tions of tunes, and some will have it that all this is the result of ambition for control or a passion for gain but we still take pleasure in commending the zeal and skill which Mr. Mason has manifested in sacred music. No other man in this country has done so much and so well, in the cause of sacred music.

The Church Psalmody prepared by him, is, we believe, the best collection of Psalms and Hymns for church service ever published in the English language. Certainly it is the best for our use, and we could wish for it a place in every congregation in the State.

THE MODERN PSALMIST is a late singing book and is published by Mr. Mason under the sanction of the Boston Academy. We do not feel confident to decide on the merits of the music and especially with the limited opportunity thus far enjoyed for examining it, but there are several features of the work which will commend it to notice.

1. It contains about one third more tunes than the singing books in common use, and is still furnished at about the usual price. This is effected by writing two parts on one staff, which may, at first, be thought an objection, but will not prove so after a little practice. Some decided advantages will be found in this arrangement, after it has become familiar, beside the increased quantity of music.

2. Most of the tunes have two, or more stanzas of poetry printed in connexion with them. This is a great advantage, as it prevents the mechanical method into which singers are apt to fall by singing the tune always, in practice, in the same stanza.

3. The poetry is of a very chaste rich character and happily adapted to the tunes so as to be a tolerable index to the spirit and style of the music.

4. There is an unusually large number of mottos, sentences and short simple occasional pieces which give it a great advantage with choirs that have made considerable progress in the art.

5. There is an unusual number of chants, and a much greater variety in this species of composition than is usually found in singing books. We cannot doubt that chants will be more extensively used than they have been in this country.

6. While the Psalmist contains a large number of the tunes in common use, which are already familiar, there are a great number of tunes never before published in this country. The names of 115 European authors are given, specimens of whose music are published in this collection. Some of these authors flourished more than three centuries since, and others are still living. The industry of Mr. Mason is well known, and his opportunities for collecting rich materials for this volume have been unusually good. If then he has failed to give us here a rich collection of music the failure is inexcusable.

7. The elementary part of this book is unusually full and complete. About 50 pages are devoted to the elements of music, arranged after the general plan of the "Manual." This arrangement while it leaves the teacher at liberty to pursue his usual course with the blackboard, or musical exercises, gives the learner an opportunity of studying the elements thoroughly by himself. The exercises can also be read from the book, for the most part, and thus, the labor of writing, in a great measure dispensed with.

8. A chapter of some five pages is devoted to exercises of a complicated character designed to give compass and flexibility to the voice. Such an exercise is greatly needed. But few voices can be found in a common choir which can sing neatly and accurately what might be termed warbling passages, where the voice is required to glide rapidly through several intervals, with notes differing in length. These exercises are designed and seem well adapted to remedy this defect.

We commend the MODERN PSALMIST to the attention of our choirs and teachers of music in the belief that it will be found on trial superior to any work hitherto published in this country.

MUSICAL VISITOR.

We have received Nos. 8 and 10 of this semi-monthly periodical, published in Boston by an Association of gentlemen. Price \$1 per year.

Singing schools, Sabbath schools, Musical societies, and indeed, institutions of every description, or individuals, may receive twenty copies sent to one direction for ten dollars.

The work appears to be ably conducted and well adapted to promote the interests of sacred music, and to sustain the interests of morals and religion. Each of the numbers before us has three, plain, simple, original tunes, and a part of each is devoted to the Elements of Music. The appeals in behalf of sacred music—the intelligence respecting its progress, and the means of promoting it—the various criticisms, discussions, &c., make this a valuable work in the family as well as the school. It deserves a liberal support.

JUVENILE MINSTREL.

This is the title of a neat little musical gem, published at the office of the Visitor and made up chiefly from its columns, designed for Sunday and common schools. This is published in semi-monthly numbers of four small pages, making in the year a neat little volume with a good deal of useful reading and origi-

nal music for from 60 to 100 songs and hymns, and all this for 12½ cts. Eight copies are furnished for one dollar so that companies, schools &c. can be supplied at a very trifling expense. Orders for this as well as for the Visitor may be addressed to EDITORS OF MUSICAL VISITOR care of H. W. DAY, BOSTON.

Periodicals or communications designed for our personal inspection, or notice in the Visitor department of the Farmer should be directed to THE VISITOR, Gorham, Me.

SUMMARY.

FROM LONDON.—The Packet ship Quebec, at N. Y. brings dates three days later than received by the England. The following items we copy from the N. Y. Star.

The London Times of the 10th ult. says—The Paris papers of Friday are still occupied with the treaty of alliance for the restoration of peace in the East.—On the Bourse more confidence in the maintenance of peace was entertained than on Thursday.

The extraordinary invasion of France by the Prince Louis Napoleon Bonaparte, with which our readers have already been acquainted, would have created but little sensation in Paris, but for the connexion of Lord Palmerston's name with the affair. Le Temps more than insinuated that his lordship was not a stranger to the project, and this insinuation was greedily swallowed at the Bourse.

Boulogne, Aug. 6, 6 o'clock.—Louis Bonaparte is arrested. He has just been transferred to the castle, where he will be well guarded. The conduct of the troops and National Guard was admirable.

Le Temps says that the minister of War is organizing 27 battalions of artillery, and that the command of one of the corps d'armee to be assembled on the Rhine is to be entrusted to Marshall Clauset.

The Madrid papers of the 13th inst. have arrived.—Gen. Balboa had resigned his command. Perfect tranquillity prevailed.

A Barcelona letter of the 21st ult. says that the Queen had resumed her drives to the Rambles, and that the city continued tranquil. It was thought the ministers would dissolve the Cortes, and reduce the army to 120,000 men.

The Edinburgh Castle steamer is still in the possession of the French at Boulogne, and her crew in prison. It is expected that the Prince will be removed to Paris for trial.

The events in Syria had caused the affair of Damascus to be altogether forgotten. The French commissioner, however, was in the mean time pursuing his inquiries.

The Garrick, at N. York, brings London dates to the 15th and Liverpool to the 16th ult.

The weather still continued favorable for the harvest, and the accounts from all parts of the country represent the general state of the crops as excellent. Parliament was prorogued on the 11th ult. by the Queen in person. The speech from the throne is remarkable for nothing, unless it may be that it is quite as unmeaning as all such speeches ever have been. It made no allusion whatever to the existing state of affairs between England and France. In it the Queen was made to say that she continued to receive from foreign powers assurances of their friendly disposition, and of their anxious desire for the maintenance of peace, and to congratulate both Houses upon the termination of the civil war in Spain—that the differences with the government of Naples, the grounds and causes of which have been laid before, have been put into a train of adjustment by the friendly mediation of the King of the French. That measures were in concert with the Emperor of Austria, the King of Prussia, the Emperor of Russia and the Sultan, intended to effect the permanent pacification of the Levant, to maintain the integrity and independence of the Ottoman empire, and thereby afford additional security for the peace of Europe; and that the violent injuries inflicted upon some of her subjects by the officers of the Emperor of China, and the indignities offered to an agent of the crown, had compelled her to send to the coast of China a naval and military force, for the purpose of demanding reparation and redress. She is also made to say, that the conduct of the emancipated negroes throughout the West Indies, has been remarkable for tranquil obedience to the law, and a peaceable demeanor in all the relations of social life.

The BRITANNIA arrived at this port Thursday night last, bringing Liverpool dates to the 4th inst. The British Queen, which sailed on the 1st, arrived at New York the same day.

The European news is quite interesting. Prince Louis Napoleon, a son of Louis Bonaparte, ex-king of Holland, and of Hortense, the daughter of Josephine, has made a descent on the French coast, for the purpose of raising an insurrection. He landed at Boulogne with Count Montholon and about 60 followers, but failed in his attempt, and was immediately arrested. He will probably not be let off so easily as on his former mad attempt at Strasburg. His trial was to take place about the 1st of October.

Louis Phillippe and his family had a narrow escape from shipwreck in a storm on the 16th of August, the steamboat in which they had embarked at Eu having been driven on shore. They were all safely landed, the king being the last to leave the vessel. It was reported that he had been previously shot at, on his journey to Eu.

The firemen and engineers of the British Queen had concealed large quantities of tobacco among her coals, which were discovered by the revenue officers, and the vessel seized in consequence. She was, however, allowed to proceed on her regular trip, the owners giving security to abide the result of the trial.—The duty on the tobacco amounted to three or four hundred pounds sterling.

Three fires in London had destroyed property to the amount of half a million of dollars.

The prospect of war had not lessened. The French were augmenting their marine and land forces, and the Austrians garrisoning the frontier fortresses.

Mehemet Ali has refused to comply with the requisitions of the four European powers, and is preparing for his defence. He made answer that he should not make any aggressions, but would repel force by force.—*Bost. Weekly Mag.*

Mr. Elihu F. Marshall, one of the publishers of the New Genesee Farmer, and author of a spelling-book which was for many years highly popular, died at Rochester on the 29th ult. He was an exemplary member of the Society of Friends, and a native of Easton, Washington co., N. Y.

The journeymen house carpenters of St Louis have struck for higher wages. They get \$1 75, but want \$2 a day.

Ohio Crops.—The corn crop in Ohio promises an abundant harvest. The wheat crop was never better than the past season. The sales of wheat at Milan Huron county, had averaged, for about a month past, over 4,000 bushels per day.

Strange Affair.—There was a strange occurrence at the Criminal Court, now sitting at Montreal, on Saturday week. One Quin was under trial for the murder of a child at St. Eustache, by shooting it with a pistol: the principal witness, after relating the affair, was questioned as to the identity of Quin, when he declared that he was not the person, and being asked if he could point out any person in the Court who committed the act he had testified to, he pointed out one Johnson, who was one of the witnesses of the Crown, on whose deposition Quin had been arrested.—Quin was discharged and Johnson sent to jail.

In Michigan there are 109,896 hogs, 62,684 sheep and 175 000 people. Each human inhabitant can almost 'go the whole hog' and make out the balance with mutton. If there is a plenty of hominy and potatoes in that quarter, we should call it a small paradise.

The Council of the Royal Society of London have recommended to the Government to urge upon the Government of the United States the establishment of Magnetic Observations similar to those now in operation in other parts of the world.

New York Girls.—Our feelings have been inexpressibly shocked by unequivocal testimony that the New York girls have a propensity to bite off ears! Three or four instances have occurred within a week and are mentioned in the papers. Rather snappish ladies, eh?

The Queen Charlotte, the flag ship of the British at the battle of Lake Erie, is now a merchant ship with the stars and stripes fluttering at her mast head.

A Newfoundland dog swimming in Charleston harbor last week, was seized by a shark, and carried off. Several boys were swimming in the dock at the same time.

The travel from Charleston to Philadelphia, distance of seven hundred miles, was accomplished a few days since in less than fifty-four hours!

The packets from Boston to England are taking full freights of flour and wheat.

The fair in Boston for the completion of Bunker Hill Monument, was a very splendid concern. It seems to be generally conceded, that as the Ladies have taken the thing in hand, it will be completed without further delay.

Mr. Riggs, a missionary to Palestine, lately visited the Dead Sea and bathed in its waters. He could not sink his whole body under the water. If taken into the mouth, the water leaves a painful burning sensation.

The whole population of the United States according to the census in 1820 was nine millions six hundred and twenty nine thousand. Of this number it appeared that of the efficient or laboring persons, two millions and sixty five thousand were engaged in agriculture, three hundred and forty nine thousand in manufactures, and seventy two thousand in commerce.—Add to these the women, the children and the invalids, and there will be found to have been about eight

millions in the agricultural class, one million three hundred thousand in the commercial class. The population now is probably nearly double what it was in 1820, and the proportion of persons belonging to the commercial and manufacturing classes, as compared with the agricultural, is doubtless much greater than in 1820.

The Governor of Florida has issued a proclamation from circumstances that have induced a belief that the recent butchery at Indian Key was committed by whites and negroes, who were leagued with Indians, offering a reward of \$200 for their apprehension.

BOSTON WEEKLY MAGAZINE. The first number of the third volume of this valuable and interesting paper was issued on the 19th. It is one of the best, if not the very best executed, of any in the Union. Its morals are intended to be of the purest, and its literature of the most elevated character. Some very eminent American writers are contributors to its columns. The selections of music are made with great care, and would cost, at the music stores, more than double the subscription price of the paper. Terms, \$2.50 per annum, in advance; five copies, \$10. D. H. Ela & J. B. Hall, publishers, 37 Cornhill, Boston.

Those persons who desire a chaste, elegant and interesting literary paper, will not be disappointed, we think, in the Weekly Magazine.

THE ELECTION.—We believe it is conceded by both parties, that the whigs have secured a majority in both branches of our State Legislature. As respects the Governor, the vote is a close one; and it will probably be difficult to determine whether there is a choice till the official returns are examined. We believe both parties stand ready to pledge the vote of the State to their respective candidates at the presidential election in November. Which will redeem its pledge, remains to be seen.—*Temperance Gazette.*

A writer in the Farmers' Cabinet corroborates a fact mentioned by a writer more than two thousand years ago, viz: that hen's eggs which are nearly round, invariably produce female chickens, and those which are long or pointed produce male.

The Halifax (N. S.) Haligonian says that a codfish was brought to that market a few days since, whose circumference was forty inches, and extreme length eight feet three inches!

At the Court of Common Pleas, in Strafford county, N. H., there were 620 actions on the old docket, and 330 new entries. This must be a paradise for lawyers.

The powder mill at St. Clair, at Pottsville, Pa., exploded last week, with 1700 lbs. of powder, and killed two workmen.

Coal in great quantities and of excellent quality has been discovered near Havana in the Island of Cuba.

The revolt in the city of Mexico is quelled, and Bustamente, the President, still remains in power.

Mrs. Kinney is to take her trial on the 2d Tuesday of November.

We were highly amused at a little incident which is said to have taken place at the Fair in Boston, on Wednesday. Among the numerous visitors, was a noble hearted, jolly tar, who, after having wandered about for some time, viewing the rich and varied articles of exhibition, suddenly came to the table of a lovely and rich young lady,—when Jack, after viewing the table eyeing the lovely damsel, could refrain no longer, and said to a friend near by—'I swear,' said Jack, 'I would give twenty dollars to kiss that girl,'—no sooner said than done—'You may,' said the young lady, timidly stepping forward, and receiving a sweet kiss—Jack nothing daunted, planked the money, and left, feeling he had made a good bargain.—*Salem Observer.*

The melancholy news is now received in full of the loss of the Lord Wm Bentick, from London, & the Lord Castlereagh, from Karrick, both with troops on board, off Bombay harbor. 28 of the crew and officers of the former, 7 passengers out of 11, and 65 soldiers were lost, and only 70 out of the 200 persons on board the Lord Castlereagh were saved.

Sperm and Whale Oil.—From a statement in the Nantucket Inquirer, it appears that the quantity of oil brought into the United States during the month of August was 692,412 gallons—sperm 324,350; whale 268,062.

The Texas militia and the Comanche Indians have had a battle. Forty of the latter lost their lives.

The Cotton Crop.—Late New Orleans papers deny that there has been an extensive destruction of cotton by the caterpillar. They say that it is quite likely some destruction has ensued in a few places, but that the loss is a very small matter when compared with the aggregate yield.

An old gentleman of Montgomery co., Pa., says—'Dig potatoes in dry weather, if you wish them to preserve well.' That's correct.

If you love your grand-children, or expect to have any, file your newspapers. So says the Saturday Courier.

On Sunday night 13th inst. the dwelling house owned and occupied by Mr Leonard Dearth, in East Sanguineville Maine, was discovered to be on fire—and so rapid was the devouring element in its progress, that the inmates had barely time to escape. Loss estimated at \$1500.

The officer employed to take the census of King's county, informs the Brooklyn News, that he has met at the residence of Mrs. Maria Stillwell, at Gravesend, a colored woman at the advanced age of one hundred and thirteen! She appears to be in perfect health; eats, drinks and sleeps well. She performs all her duty as a domestic with astonishing energy and activity. She says she can milk the cows as readily as she could a hundred years ago!

Rights of Paupers.—Mr. Lamb, keeper of the poor house at Heath, was fined \$2 and costs, by the Court of Common Pleas at Greenfield, Mass., last week, for whipping one of the town's poor, a female, with a stick. The defence set up was, that the keeper of the poor house had, by law, a right to inflict moderate chastisement upon the inmates, when it was necessary to keep them in order. The Court ruled that he had no such right—that it was very doubtful even whether the overseers had any such right—and if they had, they could not delegate it to the keepers of the poor house, or any other person.

Old Books.—They have some rare old books in Philadelphia. Mr. J. Woods, bookseller, has a Bible printed in London, in 1572, being two hundred and seventy years old. Mr. R. M. Greenbank has a black letter Latin Bible, (Vulgate) printed in 1521, and a black letter English one, printed 1539. Mr. J. Parker exhibited to the editor of the Ledger, two volumes printed in 1571 and 1530. Mr. McKeon, bookseller, has a book printed in 1533. The Bible Association of Friends have a Bible printed in the year 1478—consequently it is now three hundred and sixty-two years old.

While the multicaulis speculation has exploded and blown up most of those engaged in it, the silk business has been extensively carried on by others in a sober, rational way, who find it a profitable concern.

At Mt. Vernon, N. H., Mr. Sewall, a highly respectable man, who was to have been married the ensuing week, was stabbed by a very intemperate man by the name of Thomas, and soon died of the wound. The murderer has been secured.

Married.

In Bath, Mr Benj. Owen to Miss Nancy M. Aubins. In Fayette, Robert Thompson, Esq. of Industry, to Miss Fanny Lane.

In Calais, Mr Cyrus Nowell to Miss Mary E. Tinkham.

In Gorham, Rev Clarke Perry, of Standish, to Miss Eunice McLellan.

DIED.

In Westbrook, 14th inst., Mr Wm. Rich, of Skowhegan, formerly of Portland, aged 33.

In Boston, John, son of widow Catharine Blake, formerly of Hallowell, 15 years.

In Williston, Vermont, Hon. Martin Chittenden, formerly a Member of Congress and Governor of the State.

In Hallowell, Mrs. Dorothy L. Stickney, 75. Caroline, daughter of Col. Andrew Masters, 11.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday Sept. 14, 1840. (From the Daily Advertiser and Patriot.)

At market 380 Beef Cattle, 675 Stores, 4800 Sheep, and 975 Swine.

Prices—Beef Cattle.—The prices obtained last week were fully sustained. We quote first quality \$5 75 a 6; second 5 25 a 5 50; third 4 a 5.

Stores.—Yearlings \$8 a 11; two year old 14 a 18; three year old 22 a 25.

Sheep.—Dull. Lots sold for 1 15, 1 25, 1 42, 1 66, 1 75, 1 88, and \$2.

Swine.—Dull, and prices further declined. Lots to peddle at 3 1-3, 3 1-4, 3 1-8c for Sows, and 4, 4 1-8, 4 1-4, 4 3-8c for Barrows: lot of large selected Barrow Shoats at 4 1-4; old Hogs at 3 1-2 a 4 for Sows and 4 a 4 1-2 for Barrows. At retail from 3 1-2 to 5.

Notice.

MR. EDITOR—I noticed that H. A. Pitts has again assailed me in your last, and as I said before I should not notice him again through your columns, still I am a little curious to know what kind of a plumb and square he would have us apply to his statements. I will therefore now propose to submit the whole controversy between H. A. Pitts and myself to a disinterested Committee, and they shall examine the facts and report through the Maine Farmer.

LUTHER WHITMAN.

Winthrop, Sept. 23, 1840.

THE WEATHER.

Range of the Thermometer and Barometer at the office of the Maine Farmer.

Sept. 11	Thermom.	Barometer.	Weather.	Wind.
18.	62 67 66	29.70 29.65 29.65	C. C. C.	SSE. E.
19.	62 63 63	29.50 29.40 29.35	C. R. R.	SSE.
20.	55 59	29.20 29.10 29.	F. C. C.	SSE. W.
21.	51 51 48	29.20 29.25 29.40	F. R. F.	W. W.
22.	43 46 45	29.65 29.70 29.70	C. F. F.	NW. W.
23.	46 54 55	29.75 29.70 29.70	C. C. C.	SW. W.
24.	46 50 48	29.90 29.95 29.95	F. F. F.	N.

F. for Fair weather; C. cloudy; S. snow; R. rain. The place of these letters indicate the character of the weather at each time of observation—viz. at sunrise, at noon, and at sunset.

s. Shower between observations.

The direction of the wind is noted at sunrise and sunset.

Winthrop Lyceum.

A meeting of the Winthrop Lyceum will be holden at the Masonic Hall in this Village, on Tuesday evening next, at half past 6 o'clock.

Question for Discussion.—"Ought the Legislature to legalize the sale of Ardent Spirits?"

Ladies and Gentlemen are respectfully invited to attend. Winthrop, Sept. 25, 1840.

Kennebec, ss.—At a Court of Probate holden at Augusta, within and for the County of Kennebec, on the second Tuesday of September, A. D. 1840,

JAMES COFFIN, Administrator of Estate of MOSES HARRIS, late of Greene, in said county, deceased, having presented his account of administration of the Estate of said deceased for allowance: and the Widow of said Harris having made application for an allowance out of the personal Estate of said deceased,

Ordered, That the said Adm'r give notice to all persons interested, by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks successively in the Maine Farmer, printed at Winthrop, that they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Augusta, in said county, on the 2d Tuesday of November next at ten of the clock in the forenoon, and show cause, if any they have, why the same should not be allowed.

H. W. FULLER, Judge.

A true copy. Attest: J. S. TURNER, Register. 38

NOTICE is hereby given, that the subscriber has been duly appointed Administratrix of all and singular the goods and estate which were of ISAAC NELSON, late of Winthrop, in the county of Kennebec, deceased, intestate, and has undertaken that trust by giving bond as the law directs:—All persons therefore, having demands against the Estate of said deceased are desired to exhibit the same for settlement; and all indebted to said Estate are requested to make immediate payment to

ISABEL NELSON, Administratrix. Winthrop, Sept. 8, 1840. 3w38

Freedom.

NOTICE is hereby given that for a valuable consideration, I have this day relinquished to my minor son EZRA HOLMES NORCROSS, his time until he shall arrive at the age of twenty-one years. I shall therefore neither claim any of his earnings nor pay any debts of his contracting after this date.

Witness: B. F. ROBBINS. Winthrop, Sept. 23, 1840. 3w38

Machine shop and Iron Foundry.

HOLMES & ROBBINS would inform the public that they continue to carry on the MACHINE MAKING BUSINESS as usual, at the Village in GARDINER, where they will be in readiness at all times to accommodate those who may favor them with their custom. They have an IRON FOUNDRY connected with the Machine Shop, where persons can have almost every kind of Casting made at short notice. Persons wishing for Mill work or Castings for Mills, will find it particularly to their advantage to call, as the assortment of Patterns for that kind of work is very extensive and as good as can be found in any place whatever.

Castings of various kinds kept constantly on hand—such as Cart and Wagon Hubs of all sizes, Fire-Frames, Oven, Ash and Boiler Mouths, Cart and Wagon Boxes, Gears of different kinds and sizes, &c. &c.

All orders for Machinery or Castings executed on the most reasonable terms, without delay.

Repairing done as usual. Gardiner, March 21, 1840. 12ly

Whitman's Separator and Grain Cleanser.

THE subscriber informs the public that he has received Letters Patent for his newly invented Separator, and is prepared to accommodate purchasers at short notice.—The machine thrashes and cleanses the grain in a thorough manner at one operation. Call at his shop in Winthrop Village where may also be found first rate Horse Powers of his construction.

LUTHER WHITMAN. Winthrop, Sept. 10, 1840.

Superior Ploughs for Sale.

A NEW and extensive assortment of the celebrated Ploughs, manufactured by Ruggles, Nourse & Mason, has been received. They are offered for sale at low prices and on accommodating terms.

Persons desirous of purchasing GOOD PLOUGHS are requested to call and examine for themselves.

NOYES & ROBBINS.

Winthrop, Sept. 1840.

N. B. The "Side Hill Plough" is kept constantly on hand, as above.

SEARS GENUINE VEGETABLE PULMONARY BALSAMIC SYRUP OF LIVERWORT.

For cure of Consumptions, Coughs and Colds.

More than 75,000 bottles of this very valuable medicine has been sold, (principally in the State of Maine,) since it was first offered to the public by the original inventor and proprietor, J. B. Sears, a few years since.

It is undoubtedly superior to any other article offered to the public, as it seldom fails of giving relief where it is taken in due season.

Although the superior virtues of this medicine are well known, and its qualities highly approved by many of the most respectable of the Medical Faculty, the following certificates are added for the satisfaction of those who may be afflicted with these diseases for which it is designed, several others may be seen on the bill of directions accompanying each bottle.

The undersigned takes pleasure in mentioning the prompt and essential relief which he experienced in a severe attack on the lungs in January last, from the use of the Vegetable Pulmonary Balsamic Syrup of Liverwort; and cheerfully testifies that in his opinion, it is a most beneficial medicine in consumptive complaints, violent colds, or settled cough, and earnestly recommends this Medicine to all who are suffering under afflictions of this kind.

Thomaston, Feb. 16, 1831. PHILIP ULMER. Certificate of Dr. Goodwin, an experienced Physician of Thomaston.

I do hereby certify, that I have this day examined the composition of a Medicine prepared by John B. Sears of this town, which he calls Vegetable Pulmonary Balsamic Syrup of Liverwort, for the cure of Consumptions, Coughs, Colds, &c., and in my opinion it is superior to any Cough Drops that has come within my knowledge.

Thomaston, April 2, 1831. JACOB GOODWIN.

The undersigned having purchased the original recipe for this syrup, has made arrangements to have Agents in the principal towns in New England supplied with it. Purchasers will be careful that the bill of directions are signed by H. Fuller or S. Page, and the name of the former stamped in the seal, and my own name written on the outside label.

T. B. MERRICK. The following are among the Agents for selling the above Syrup; Wm C Stimpson & Co., Pratt & King, and Maynard and Noyes, Boston; J S Harrison, Salem; A Carter, Portland; Geo W Holden, Bangor; R S Blasdel, Thomaston; J E Ladd, Eben Fuller and A Hatch, Augusta; A T Perkins, Gardiner; Geo Williston, Brunswick; Dr J A Berry, Saco—& for sale by most of the stores in the country.

The Maine Farmer, And Journal of the Useful Arts.

IS PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

By NOYES & ROBBINS;

E. HOLMES, EDITOR.

Price \$2.00 a year. \$2.50 will be charged if payment is delayed beyond the year. A deduction of 25 cents will be made to those who pay CASH in advance—and a proportionable deduction to those who pay before the publication of the 26th number, at which time payment is considered due.

Any kind of produce, not liable to be injured by frost, delivered to an Agent in any town in the State, will be received in payment, if delivered within the year.

No paper will be discontinued until all arrearages are paid, except at the option of the publishers; and when payment is made to an Agent, two numbers more than have been received, should be paid for.

All letters on business must be free of postage, and should be directed to the Publishers at Winthrop. Communications sent by mail should also be directed to Winthrop.

Any person who will obtain six responsible subscribers, and act as Agent, shall receive a copy for his services.

When Agents make remittances it is very important to us that they distinctly state to whom the money is to be credited, and at what Post Office each paper paid for is sent, as we cannot otherwise well find the name on our books.

O. L. SANBORN, 22 Exchange St., Portland, is publishing Agent for that city.

GENERAL AGENTS.

HORACE WATERS, Augusta;

C. M. LADD, Hallowell;

J. & J. TRUE, Bangor.

J. JOHNSON, and A. B. CASWELL, Farmington.

JOHN O'BRIEN, Esq., Thomaston.

GERSHON HYDE, Bath.

POETRY.

THE LAST REQUEST.

BY E. D. THATCHER.

Bury me by the ocean's side—
Oh! give me a grave on the verge of the deep,
Where the noble tide
When the sea-gales blow, my marble may sweep—
And the glistening surf
Shall burst o'er the turf,
And bathe my cold bosom in death as I sleep!

Bury me by the sea—
That the vesper at eve-fall may ring o'er my grave,
Like the hymn of the bee.
Or the hum of the shell, in the silent wave!
Or an anthem roar
Shall be rolled on the shore
By the storm, like a mighty march of the brave!

Bury me by the deep—
Where a living footstep never may tread;
And come not to weep—
Oh! wake not with sorrow the dream of the dead,
But leave me the dirge
Of the breaking surge,
And the silent tears of the sea on my head!

And grave no Parian praise;
Gather no bloom for the heartless tomb,—
And burn no holy blaze
To flatter the awe of its solemn gloom!
For the holier light
Of the star-eyed night,
And the violet morning, my rest will illumine:—
And honors more dear
Than of sorrow and love, shall be strown on my clay
By the young green year,
With its fragrant dews and crimson array.—
Oh! leave me to sleep
On the verge of the deep,
Till the skies and the seas shall have passed away!
Boudoin Poets.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The following, cut from a public journal printed some ten years ago, enters so largely into the spirit of Christianity, and withal figures so much of the manners of rural life, and presents a pattern of maternal and brotherly love so worthy of imitation, I beg, Mr. Editor, to have it copied into the Farmer that it may be preserved as a miscellany in that valuable paper.—It may very appropriately be called

A HEAVENLY PICTURE.

"There is now living in St. Peter's Parish, South Carolina a widow lady, whose locks are silvered by age, but whose placid countenance almost tempts the stranger to contradict the universal application of the sentiment, 'man is born to trouble.' That lady is Mrs. SARAH LAWTON. The 6th day of last February was the anniversary of her birth, and 77 years had then rolled by, leaving upon her recollection only senses of pleasure to cheer the pathway of declining age. The morn was ushered in by sun beams, reflected from the hoary frost, and the old lady whose pleasurable anticipations had not allowed an hour's 'slumber to her eyelids' during the night, came forth in all the dignity of age, and smiled complaisance upon those who were making preparations for the feast.—At an early hour the rattling of gigs and carriages, the neighing of horses, the running to and fro of servants, the frolics of the little boys and girls, the civilities of youthful companions, and the warm congratulations of maturer years, presented a scene of innocent gaiety which even happy Mulberry Grove had never before witnessed. This day had been long spoken of, and the expected dinner was the theme of every table talk. With their best apparel, and their happiest smiles, children and grand children, and great grand children entered the habitation, and approaching the great arm-chair, received the maternal kiss, and the maternal blessing. She wept, and they wept; she smiled; and they smiled; and the tear was the tear of love, and the smile, the smile of joy.

"And having gathered them all about her, she said: 'My children, I have long anticipated this day, with a fond wish to see you before I die, and now I feel that it is a little Heaven below,' for already had her children and grand children been making the house resound with songs of praise to Him from whom all blessings flow: and she continued, 'the Lord has done wonders for me: he has given me a family eighty-four in number; and what demands my highest gratitude, all my children and grand children, who are grown, are professors of religion, and not one has ever disgraced his family, but all contribute to the happiness of my life.—Even those who have married into my

family are all religious except one, and religion is the only thing he wants. My oldest and my youngest sons are Ministers of the blessed Gospel, and two of my grand daughters are Ministers' wives, and till but lately, I had a son-in-law, who was also in some holy calling. My family is healthy and happy, and they almost all live near me. Oh! when I look at you all, my heart is full of gratitude to God, to think how I am blessed with children and grand children, affectionate and dutiful, to comfort me in my declining years. God bless you my dear children.' She then directed a little stand to be brought to her, and upon it was placed a large family bible and hymn book. Her eldest son, between 50 and 60 years of age, read from the holy book, 'And thou Solomon, my son, know thou the God of thy fathers, and serve him with a perfect heart, and with a willing mind.' 'If thou seek him, he will be found of thee, but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off forever.' And from this text, he delivered, with as much pathos as the interest of the occasion called for, an address that seemed to reach every heart, and to make every eye pour forth streams of love. His youthful brother closed the exercises with a feeling and impressive prayer. Soon after which the dinner was served up, and forty-four sat down to the first table, all except one being professors of religion. The old Lady's countenance told in language more forcible than my pen can express, the joy of her heart, as from the head of the table she surveyed her children with the fond hope that all those would sit down with her at the Saviour's board to enjoy the new wine in her Father's kingdom. The younger part of this happy family then took the places their fathers and mothers vacated, and it was indeed calculated to fill the bosom with indescribable emotion, to see about forty boys and girls enjoy the birth-day feast their aged grandmother has prepared for them. Doubtless the prayers she uttered for future prosperity emanated from her heart, as incense perfumed with the blood of the Lamb of God, and will be answered by her Heavenly Father when she is silent in the grave yard where her departed pious husband already sleeps. W. H. B."

Original.

Salathiel's Grimalthin becometh herbivorous, whereupon he prognosticateeth rain. Giveth us sundry queries and facts respecting Black Sea Wheat and the Rust, and suggests valuable hints touching the rust on potatoes.

(Concluded.)

We frequently hear potatoes, certain varieties long planted in the same soil, spoken of, as being "run out." Is it not the case that, when thus deteriorated by "breeding in and in," this valuable crop is rendered more liable to the result? Is it not, indeed, the natural result of age and exhaustion? If so, here is a reason "good and sufficient" why the seed should be perpetually renewed, and why new varieties should be produced from the apple. I am informed that the "Laplenders" a long red potato, and the Rohans have escaped unharmed and are yet growing, green and vigorous. The red potato, is an old variety, and has been in favor and out of favor, with our farmers time and again. 'Tis just getting its good name anew, as no kind will keep better through the winter, or come out brighter and better in spring-time, for stock or table. The Rohans, as you well know, are a fresh importation, and have hardly been naturalised in our soil. Like the Belgian giant, they are famed for their *bigness*. Their other estimable qualities are yet in embryo—in the hills. They will be "dug up" and brought to light in due time and their quality will be approved or condemned, as the persons who "sit at the board" shall pass judgment, influenced solely by "the law and the evidence" of the palate. If they "go down well" with epicures, their name "is up" for an age and a day. Let them "pass the solemn test" approvingly down a multitude of gaping throats and "deep will call unto deep" in their behalf. The "belly god" will bid them welcome to his own elysium.

The "old yellow" and the chesangoes are the greatest sufferers. Their tops are as dead and faded as though they had been prematurely visited by an October frost. "Yallar taters" have been planted here time out of mind. At least they are older than I am, and may claim equality of possession with the oldest inhabitants. The chesangoes, have grown in our fields and reposed in our cellars and refreshed our palates and filled the pigs' bodies to fatness for more than ten years. They have heretofore yielded well, though never recommended as "great breeders." If the rust claims them in advance of the harvest, if "Ephraim is joined to his idols, let him alone."

I shall continue in the same strain, without apology, for information comes in faster and freer, than I can make record. The early planted potatoes have rusted most, and the tops are entirely corrupted. Those a little later are partially injured and, still carry the

green flag, though it, in too many cases, *flags* mournfully, at half-mast. The late ones hold on growing—still show good tops, and it is hoped that in due time they will "turn up" to view, good broad bottoms.—The Lapland reds before mentioned, in all cases ripen late. They grow to the "last extremity," and fight Jack Frost, manfully and successfully, till the farmer's boys put an end to hostilities by mining them out from their entrenchments.

An anecdote, of a sable son of Africa, who lived up near by the sources of Saco river, may not be inapt here, as it is, to all intents a "good 'tater story." The farmer, in whose employ darkee labored daily, for almost the term of his natural life, owned a field some three miles from his dwelling, which year after year supplied him with potatoes. Sambo was accustomed to go thither at an early hour in the morning and would remain there working diligently till night-fall. The two meridian hours, were during planting and digging time, spent in preparing a delicious repast of roasted potatoes, which all hot and smoking from the hot-heated earth, and with the added flavor of rich butter and cold meat or salt fish, furnished a dinner and satiated an appetite that a fat London Alderman might have envied. Sambo after long study and deep thinking, to a degree beyond the cogitations, of Gardner, or Kitchener, came to the conclusion that this portion of his dinner might as well be raised as roasted, and the trouble of a daily stump fire, thereby saved. Full and fired with his new discovery, he would every day in the planting season, deposit the undevoured portion of his roasted potatoes in a little spot of ground which he had chosen and dressed richly for the purpose. The idea of "raising a dinner" in this way, is one, which never would have entered the brain of lazy loafers, whose three meals a day are obtained by "raising the wind." In due time enough were deposited, not only to raise potatoes for his own eating, but for seed, another season, as it was easily proved that the seed could more easily raised than roasted. But Sambo's roast potato patch as ill luck would have it would not sprout, and for the whole season this barren spot was the observed of all observers. The seed was regularly deposited and the hills were rounded up in due form, but to the vain planter's mortification would not come up. The joke in due time came out by due inquiry, for Sambo in the honest simplicity of his heart, kept nothing back, and for the live-long summer kept close watch to see when his roasted potatoes would give signs of sprouting—and at the end of three months solaced himself for the failure by the conclusion that his "roast-tater-seed was jess good for noffin'." The story of this event is still rife in the region of its occurrence, and the old settlers, when the young men venture on experiments which "wont work" are ever sure *after the failure* is made evident to console the experimenter by relating how old Sambo one spring planted roasted potatoes. Does a man attempt by a short cut to make a fortune and in the result lose the little he really possessed, he is told by those who are always ready with their wise "I told ye so," after the fact, that his stock will come back in the shape of fat dividends when Sambo harvests his roasted potatoes. And so to the end of the chapter, when a mother's son, ventures into the world full of courage and full of hope, the last warning, from his prudent parents, bids him beware how he *plants roasted potatoes*.

There is another cause which induces rust in our potato crops, and that is, the planting on old ground. The best and surest harvest is obtained from a virgin soil. But ground long broken up, requires a change. The best potatoes that have ever been subjected to my "fair and impartial decision" were raised "on a burn." They were of the largest size, of a bright, almost a golden yellow, the sight of them in the heap was enough to effect Pat's mouth, till it run water.—But most of all, when they come out of the boiling pot, or the bake kettle, or from the ashes beneath the fore stick, was their quality to be commended. The fiery ordeal through which they were made to pass, always improved them materially in *taste* and in *temper*. I think of them, as of a race that has departed and number them with the excellent of the earth.—'Tis pleasant, even in degenerate times, to reflect, that "there were giants in those days."

Yours truly,

SALATHIEL.

P. S. In printing my letter to you, contained in the Farmer of the 22d inst., your type setter made a mistake, wide as the poles. He located my friend's farm—the same who is experimenting on potatoes by producing almost infinite varieties from the seed, at North part of Hollis. A reference to the manuscript will show that it was written, the South part of Hollis. As the town lies some fifteen miles on the river, the change in latitudes would take him and his household and his acres quite too far "up stream," when in truth he lives "down river." The correction, though no name was given, is still important, in reference to places.

NOTE.—We do not know which was meant to be written, but in the "shanserit" copy, it is as near North as South.—Ed.